Ragging in educational institutes

†1259. DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2059 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 2005 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that ragging is rampant in the educational institutions;

(b) what are details of the incidents of ragging that had taken place during the last five years the district-wise/State-wise/Union Territory-wise/ educational institution-wise;

(c) the details of the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to check ragging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Government has taken serious note of the problem of Ragging in Universities/ Colleges and a strict watch is being maintained by the universities and colleges on all untoward developments. No centralized data is being maintained in regard to the cases of ragging.

In order to explore the measures for curbing of ragging in Universities & Colleges, the University Grants Commission (UGC) had constituted an expert committee in September, 1999. The report of the expert committee was circulated to all universities for necessary action. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Petition No. 656 of 1998 on curbing the menace of ragging in the educational institutions have also been circulated to all the State/UT Governments/universities for strict compliance. The Commission has also invited the attention of the universities to the report of the committee constituted by the I.I.T., Delhi on measures to curb ragging. AICTE has also issued instructions to all the State Secretaries (Technical Education) and Vice-Chancellors of Technical Universities for taking necessary steps to prevent ragging in the Institutes.

NORAD Scheme in U.P.

†1260. DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that with regard to NORAD

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Scheme many officers of district level and State level do not approve and forward proposals of the voluntary institutions and these proposals are pending in the Central offices; and

(b) the details of action being taken by Government regarding pending proposals, in respect of NORAD Scheme, particularly in U.P. and district Bulandshahr?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) A State level Empowered Committee has been constituted in each State to recommend and forward proposals of voluntary organizations/institutions to the Central Government. The proposals as and when approved by State Level Empowered Committees are forwarded to the Department for Government of India consideration.

(b) Consequent upon the decision taken to transfer Swawlamban (NORAD) Scheme to the States, all project proposals received from U.P.-based organizations/institutions, have been returned to the Government of Uttar Pradesh. No proposals are pending with Government of India at present.

Reservation in AMU

†1261. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to file an appeal against order of the Hon'ble Allahabad High Court cancelling the 50 per cent reservation of seats in Aligarh Muslim University for Muslim students; and

(b) whether Government also propose to provide reservation for the students of other minorities such as Christians, Sikhs and Parsis' in their respective institutes on the line of Aligarh Muslim University, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Government has since filed Special Appeals against the order dated 4th October, 2005 of the Single bench of the High Court, Allahabad, quashing the decision of the University's authorities to reserve 50 per cent seats in the Postgraduate Medical Courses for the Muslims of India on all-India basis, as also the 'no-objection' thereto conveyed by the Government and the matter is before the Division Bench.